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nearly all writers upon this subject, the propensity to see Phallic emblems symbolized everywhere and in everything. His work on the whole is earnest and respectable, but shows few traces of the scholarship really required to treat this subject critically and well.

*Psychologie de L'Instinct Sexuel*, par LE DR. JOANNY ROUX. Paris, 1899. pp. 96.

This is the best little compend on this great subject that we have seen, and is written with the wide knowledge of the best literature. The first chapter on the basis of sexual need leads up to the conclusion that this takes its rise in every part of the organism, and its exciting cause is similar to that of the desire for food. The second chapter discusses the nervous centres of this function and its relations successively with olfactory, visual, auditory, tactile and gustatory sensations. The third chapter discusses choice, from the lowest animals up to man, with the usual account of the theories of Schopenhauer and Hartmann. The fourth part treats of the higher forms of love, the role of intellectual, moral and emotional qualities, and the evolution of the affectional nature.

*Degeneracy: Its Causes, Signs and Results*, by Eugene S. Talbot, M. D. London, 1898. pp. 372.

The author is a Fellow of the Chicago Academy of Medicine, and presents here the results of twenty years of labor in a limited medical department of biology. He writes especially for educators and parents, and avoids laying stress on any one cause of degeneracy, nor will he venture to rigidly distinguish abnormality from disease or atavism from arrested development. He considers the stigmata of heredity, consanguineous and neurotic intermarriages, intermixture of races, toxic agents, the school strain, degenerate cranium, nose, face, eye, ear, teeth, and jaw, reversion, mental and moral degeneracy, and illustrates his work with 117 interesting and mostly new cuts. The author is bold, original and suggestive, and his work is a contribution of real and indeed great value, more so on the whole than anything that has yet appeared in this country.

*Evolution Individuelle Hérité*, par FELIX LE DANTEC. F. Alcan, Paris, 1898. pp. 306.

This is a theory of quantitative variation, and considers the subject under three general heads: I. The monoplastids, both sissipare and those with so-called cyclic evolution. II. The polyplastids, first from the standpoint of their individual evolution, and second from that of heredity. III. He discusses certain facts and theories connected with heredity such as embryogenic acceleration; Cope's diplogensis; Delage's theory of actual causes; with a final chapter on teleology.

*Beiträge zur Physiologie des Centralnervensystems*, von MAX VERWORN. Jena, 1898. pp. 92.

This first part of a more comprehensive work of the above title is not the so-called hypnosis of animals. The author first describes with some detail the phenomena in birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibia, fish and crabs, with the attempted explanation of Circher, Zeemack, Preyer, Huebel and others; and then characterizes the chief phenomena in man with the theory of the biotomic process which he assumes in neurons. The characteristic posture of hypnotized animals he holds is due to a corrective reflex which requires the muscles involved to remain in tonic contraction, and is the same if the cerebrum is removed. It is all simply the inhibition of voluntary activities that we always observe when strong sensory impressions are intense.

*A Mechanico-Physiological Theory of Organic Evolution*, by CARL VON NÄGELI. Chicago, 1898. pp. 53.

This little hand-book by V. A. Clark, a student in the University of Vermont, working under the direction of F. A. Waugh, is a very careful summary of Nägeli's mechanico-physiological theory of evolution, and will prove a real convenience to students.

*The Formal and Material Elements of Kant's Ethics*, by WILLIAM M. WASHINGTON. New York, 1898. pp. 67.

This thesis treats the fundamental principles of the metaphysics of morals, the critique of pure practical reason, and the metaphysics of ethics.

*The Basis of Early Christian Theism*, by LAWRENCE T. COLE. New York, 1898. pp. 60.

The writer first treats the Greek and Roman theistic arguments, then presents the patristic point of view and the patristic use of the theistic argument, and finally eclectic theism, which he advocates.

*Der Hypnotismus*, von KARL WACHTELBORN. Leipzig, 1898. pp. 98.

Has hypnotism a place in practical medicine? The author pleads that it is not only utterly worthless, but is a dangerous and in fact a poisonous thing. Even if its first effects are good, the reaction is detrimental to body and soul. It may and doubtless has advanced man's knowledge.

*Das Hypnotische Hellsch-Experiment*, von RUDOLF MÜLLER. Leipzig, 1898. pp. 322.

This pamphlet is only an extract from two volumes of the above title, and the whole is a plea for the recognition of hypnotism as an important method of scientific psychic investigation.

*Die erkenntnistheoretische Stellung des Psychologen*, von RUD. WEINMANN. Leipzig, 1898. pp. 252.

This is at the same time a contribution to the foundation of the realistic mode of thought as the only one possible. The realism here represented is confessedly an hypothesis, but one which admits of the greatest simplicity and correctness of description.

*Der Ativismus*, von DR. I. H. F. KOHLBRUGGE. Utrecht, 1897. pp. 31.

The conclusions of the first paper is that all so-called atavistic anomalies call forth neutral variations (neutral in relation to future race types) either by change or arrest of development. Arrests are caused by disturbances, mostly casual and unknown, occasioned often by unequal distribution of energy of growth. There is a power of variation about the centre, so that variation is always liable to be progressive or retrogressive. The second article consists very largely of a collection of opinions of various eminent biologists upon the subject.

*Die vierte Dimension*, von DR. LEOPOLD PICK. Leipzig, 1898. pp. 46.

This writer holds that a surface can be conceived as a section of two bodies. The question whence bodies can be thought to have arisen leads logically to a fourth dimension of space. Length, breadth and thickness do not exhaust the essence of body. We never see body, but only surface. Higher creatures might see the partition of the material and immaterial, inner extension or the fourth dimension, and this really unknown numeral of things, which may be defined as *Ausdehnung nach innen*. Man stands on the threshold between the third and fourth dimensions.

*Religion und Christentum*, von PAUL EWALD. Leipzig, 1898. pp. 39.

Christianity is the ideal of all religions, an affirmation of the supersensuous, and based upon an eruption of the supersensuous into earthly life. It is proper, therefore, to speak of its objective basis, and its best definition is communion with God. Christ is its center, and yet throughout it is the true expression of the inner nature and needs of man.

*The Repair of Will-Loss*, by JOHN M. Taylor, M. D.

In these three lectures, which are abstracted and reprinted from the International Clinics, the writer seeks to illustrate how certain differences arising in puzzling medical situations may be met. He assumes that long protracted ill-health is almost sure to end in misconduct. It is difficult to get hold of those who most need medical aid or reproof. The basis of all treatment is nutritional. Every subject requires very special and detailed study and great personal care.

*Early American Philosophers*, by ADAM L. JONES. New York, 1898. pp. 80.

This Columbia University thesis presents a concise account of William Brattle, Benjamin Franklin, Cadwalader, Thomas Clapp, and a fuller characterization of the life, education and opinions of Samuel Johnson and Jonathan Edwards.

*Psychologische Untersuchungen Über das Lesen auf Experimenteller Grundlage*, von BENNO ERDMANN und RAYMOND DODGE. Halle, Max Niemeyer, 1898. pp. 360.

After a brief introductory analysis of the process of reading, the authors résumé the results of previous experimental studies in this field, criticising extensively the work of Cattell, Grashey, Wernicke, and Goldscheider and Müller.

The authors began their experimental study with an investigation of the alternating "reading-pauses" and eye-movements. The eye-movements were observed in a mirror while the subjects (the authors and one other) read familiar or unfamiliar passages from Helmholtz's *Optik* and Lock's *Essay on Human Understanding*. The average angular excursions are found to vary, in the different subjects and texts, from  $3^{\circ}45'$  to  $5^{\circ}$  for comparatively unfamiliar passages, from  $4^{\circ}14'$  to  $5^{\circ}36'$  in familiar passages. They state the number of fixations required in writing, proof-reading, and in reading a foreign language. By telescope observations on reader's eye the first fixation of each line is found to fall within the line, and the last falls still farther within.

Assuming that the results of the measurements of the speed of eye-movements, made by Dodge and others (as described later), are valid for the reading-movement, the authors argue that during  $\frac{1}{11}$  to  $\frac{2}{24}$  of the reading-time the eye remains fixated, and that, during the movement, recognition of letters or words is impossible.

The extent of the "reading-field" is next studied, first by having subjects describe periphery of points fixated on printed page; second, and mainly, by "experimental isolation of the reading-pauses and fields." The projection apparatus used in exposing reading matter is described at length, as is also the Dodge Chronograph used in connection with it and already described elsewhere.

Wishing to make the length of exposure as nearly that of reader's usual fixation as possible, while still excluding reacting eye-movement during exposure, the authors proceed to determine the eye's reaction-time in the following manner: From a point first fixated the subject moved to a second fixation point 12 mm. distant on the appearance there of a small letter c. Simultaneously with this c a large